

WGBH-TV, Boston, for five programs ("Everest: The Death Zone," "The Brain Eater," "Supersonic Spies," "China's Mysterious Mummies," and "Coma") and for consistently outstanding science reporting. Batons are inscribed with the late Edward R. Murrow's famous observation on television: "This instrument can teach, it can illuminate; yes, it can even inspire. But it can do so only to the extent that humans are determined to use it to those ends. Otherwise it is merely wires and lights in a box."

In presenting the 2001 Gold Baton to American RadioWorks Producers, Stephen Smith and Michael Montgomery, Columbia University's President George Rupp said, "It is a measure of the times we live through that each year, at least one of these winning programs is about man's inhumanity to man. The duPont jury applauds this radio documentary for telling us about ghastly events in a now forgotten part of the world." Jurors, who reviewed over 600 submissions to choose just one Gold Baton recipient, commented, "This program reaffirms the effectiveness of radio in presenting complicated issues in a compelling way."

"Massacre at Cuska" had already received well-deserved national recognition when, in December 2000, it was named as a finalist for the 2000 International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ) Award for Outstanding International Investigative Reporting and as a finalist in the category Enterprise Journalism: In Collaboration for the Online Journalism Awards (OJAs) presented by the Online News Association and Columbia University. That said, an award of the stature of the Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Gold Baton bestowed upon such a small, public radio broadcasting entity like American RadioWorks is unprecedented.

"Massacre at Cuska" originally aired in this country in February 2000 on public radio stations nationwide, and later that year, a Serbian language version was broadcast in Yugoslavia on the independent B92 radio network. According to co-producer, Michael Montgomery, "Serbs had never heard a program so detailed and so blunt about the ethnic killings in Kosovo. As part of Serbia's new commitment to democracy, it's important that Serbs have access to independent accounts of the Kosovo violence. We hope the program will foster a public discussion in Serbia about war, accountability and reconciliation."

American RadioWorks is public radio's largest documentary production unit. It represents a collaboration that involves Minnesota Public Radio, National Public Radio and public radio stations across the country. Through investigative journalism, American RadioWorks is based in Minnesota, but its work, like mine, touches more than just Minnesotans. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate American RadioWorks on their notable achievement as the 2001 recipient of the Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Gold Baton Award for overall excellence in broadcast journalism.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2001

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, Oliver Wendell Holmes once said "Pretty much all the honest truth telling in the world is done by children." I believe we here in Congress could certainly learn something about energy, the environment, and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge from a young girl named Sophie Brown of Anchorage, Alaska, the subject of the following thoughtful and thought-provoking "Letter to the Editor" from her mother, published in the Anchorage Daily News on April 5, 2001:

CHILDREN PUT EARTH BEFORE PARENTS' SUVs
(By Barbara Brown)

I pulled the car into the driveway, walked toward the door of the house, and Sophie threw open the storm door and shouted, "How do you feel about drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge?"

"Hold on," I said, "let me pull the car into the garage."

"But this is important," she insisted. "Yes or no?"

Just another pleasant "welcome home" in the Wiepking-Brown household.

One evening, Tim was talking about something over the dinner table, and I must have become distracted because next thing I knew, he was discussing scientists and cannibalism in Papua New Guinea.

"Cannibalism?" I said, really confused. "What are you talking about?"

Sophie piped up: "It's the slow, deadly spread of mad cow disease."

By this point, I was really feeling disconnected. "What slow, deadly spread of mad cow disease?" I asked. And Sophie pointed to Newsweek magazine. "The Slow, Deadly Spread of Mad Cow Disease" was right there, on the cover.

"You read the article?" Tim asked, incredulous.

"Yes," Sophie said. "We're discussing mad cow disease in school."

Tim loves this about Sophie. He loves discussing current events. In school, he'd had a lot of trouble with reading until they introduced newspapers in his classroom. He went from nonreader to the boy everyone wanted on the current-events team.

But back to ANWR. In Sophie's class, all the kids were opposed to drilling except one boy who thought the money might help education in the affected communities. I wondered if they'd seen pictures of cute little caribou. I asked, "Was it because of the caribou?"

"Some," Sophie said, "but we know about the differences of opinion between the groups of people there; we know about how much oil they might find there. Mostly, it's because of the Earth, the wilderness."

One friend of mine said her daughter's class is ready to die on its swords to defend the refuge. Ask the children, and they want to keep it safe from drilling. Is it because they're so young, so naive, so limited in understanding? Is it because they're not paying the bills? Talk to them—they're well-versed in the facts. It's just the way they assign priorities: Kids put the Earth into the equation.

Tim went looking for a car recently and was considering a sport utility. In horror, Sophie shouted, "No, not an SUV! They are terribly wasteful of the Earth's resources!"

Don't ask me where she read that—probably the same places you have. It's just that kids don't let it slide by, don't let it fall away under considerations of image, size, power and, oh yes, by the way, it isn't very fuel-efficient.

So she sees SUVs on the road and she asks, "Are those people selfish, or do they just not know better?" She used to ask the same thing about people she saw littering.

I hear on the radio that 75 percent of Americans are worried about global warming, but the United States won't agree to a treaty to try to control it. Our president says it would be too hazardous for our economy.

Every day, everyone evaluates, decides what priority to assign things and then makes up his or her mind. But for older people, the Earth wasn't and isn't a thing to worry about. It's just "there," like adding zero to both sides of an equation. Other things—costs, duration, employment statistics, capitalization, demographics—those are all factors to be considered. The Earth? It just keeps rotating around the sun. You've seen one tree, you've seen them all. Or, you see no trees, there's nothing there.

Find me a kid who doesn't know about recycling. Find me a kid who doesn't know why he or she recycles, why it's important. OK, maybe they are just little do-gooders, but they're little do-gooders entirely different from the way little kids used to be. While my mom told people to turn their lights off for the war effort, these kids turn lights off "for the Earth."

Once, many years ago, a summer roommate said to me, "If the U.S. uses most of the Earth's resources, then if conditions are going to improve for the rest of the world, we would have to end up using less, right?"

I thought so. "Well," he decided, "I don't want to use less of anything. So I guess the rest of the world can't improve."

I am eager to see the world these children make. Oh, I know that some may grow up to think that recycling aluminum cans is a pain in the neck or that they want as big a gas guzzler as the next guy. All those "other" factors may outweigh their desire for wilderness, for conservation, for clean air and water.

But right now—bet on it—children are putting the Earth first. Even if that changes—even if they put the Earth second or third or fourth—we can be sure they'll never forget about putting the Earth in the equation. How will they feel if we don't leave them much Earth to worry about?

Barbara Brown lives and writes in Anchorage.

TRIBUTE TO BEVERLY K. ABBOTT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2001

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished Californian, Beverly K. Abbott, on the occasion of her retirement from the San Mateo County Mental Health Services Agency.

In January 1968 Beverly Abbott entered into public service as a social worker. A dedicated champion of the mentally ill, she devoted twelve years to Marin County's Division of Community Health, eight of which were spent